

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-10 are all the claims pending in the application. In response to the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims define patentable subject matter.

I. Preliminary Matters

A. Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention as allegedly not being descriptive. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the title of the invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to remove the objection to the specification.

B. Abstract of the Disclosure

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the Abstract in order to comport to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice.

II. Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blanke (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0141512) in view of Anderson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,966, hereafter “Anderson”).

Disclosure of Blanke

Blanke generally discloses a process for baseband processing of received signals in at least one baseband unit 4 of a base station (Node B) of a radio telecommunication system. The baseband unit has at least one computing element 8. In order to realize baseband processing in the base station in which hardware can be eliminated and adequate computing capacity is available, baseband processing is assigned to at least one specific computing element 8 of at least

one baseband unit 4 according to the utilization of the computing elements 8 of the baseband units 4 (paragraphs [0030] - [0031]).

Disclosure of Anderson

Anderson generally discloses a base transceiver station (BTS) (FIG. 2) for a mobile communications system. The BTS is divided into a plurality of functional units that enables signal processing resources to be flexibly allocated and cost-effectively implemented in hardware (column 3, lines 20-54). A flexible communications interface is created between the base transceiver station units which allows the signal processing resources within the units to be used more efficiently (column 3, lines 20-33).

Analysis

The Examiner asserts that Blanke discloses all of the features of independent claim 1 except for “adding means, dropping means, and/or routing means for extraction and injection of baseband data streams and, respectively routing the data streams through the stages.” The Examiner relies on Anderson to cure this conceded deficiency, and alleges that:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of Blanke by enabling flexing allocation of uplink and downlink processing as disclosed by Anderson to accommodate asymmetrical services.¹

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

¹ Page 4 of the Office Action dated March 7, 2007.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Anderson of “adding means, dropping means, and/or routing means for extraction and injection of baseband data streams and, respectively routing the data streams through the stages”, as recited in independent claim 1. The Examiner cites column 5, lines 20-30 and column 7, lines 18-20 of Anderson as allegedly disclosing this feature of claim 1. However, these cited portions of Anderson merely disclose that the transmitter 112, receiver 116, coder 118 and decoder 114 of a base transceiver station 100 may be flexibly utilized in processing asymmetrical services, because these resources can be freely allocated for uplink or downlink processing.

Nowhere does the cited portions (or any other portion) of Anderson teach or suggest adding data to a received data stream or extracting data from a received data stream and routing the data streams through stages as required in independent claim 1. In fact, there is simply no disclosure in Anderson of the multi-staged connection of baseband processing sections.

Similarly with respect to independent claim 8, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Anderson of “adding means for injecting additional data streams to received data stream, dropping means for extracting data streams from received data streams, and routing means for passing resulting data streams over said baseband-processing-section-to-baseband processing section interface” as recited in independent claim 8.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention recited in independent claim 1 and analogous independent claim 8 would not have been rendered obvious in view of the combination of Blanke and Anderson as asserted by the Examiner. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify Blanke to produce the claimed invention based on the teachings of Anderson

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103, there must be some suggestion or motivation to modify and combine the reference teachings. In particular, “[t]o support the conclusion that the claimed invention is directed to obvious subject matter, either references must expressly or impliedly suggest the claimed invention or the examiner must present a convincing line of reasoning as to why the artisan would have found the claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the reference.” *Ex parte Clapp* 227 USPQ 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985).

In the present case, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the system of Blanke to include the base transceiver station as taught by Anderson because there is no need in Blanke to flexibly allocate any resources.

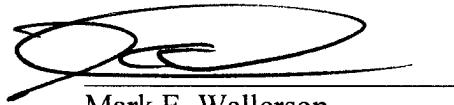
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion or motivation to modify or combine the reference teachings, and the Examiner has not provided any objective reasoning why one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Blanke in view of Anderson to produce the claimed invention. Moreover, the Examiner does not address how or why one of ordinary skill in the art would have been able to modify Blanke in view of Anderson to produce the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and analogous claim 8 should be allowable over the cited references, alone or in combination, because the cited reference do not teach or suggest all of the features of the claims, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine and modify the cited references to produce the claimed invention. Claims 2-7, 9, and 10 should also be allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims 1 and 8.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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